

## CLAIMS

1. A system for software module to module communication, comprising:

a module interface capable of receiving a message configured in a first format, the module interface further capable of translating the received message into a second format;

5 a first software module in communication with the module interface, the first software module capable of communicating messages configured in the first format to the module interface; and

10 a second software module in communication with the module interface, the second software module capable of communicating messages configured in the second format to the module interface, wherein the first software module is capable of communicating with the second software module via the module interface to facilitate data storage.

15 2. A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the module interface is further capable of translating the received message into a third format.

3. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein the second software module is capable of providing a first function related to a first hardware type.

4. A system as recited in claim 3, wherein a third software module capable of communicating messages configured in the third format to the module interface and capable of providing a second function related to a second hardware type can replace the second software module, and wherein the first software module is capable of communicating with the third software module via the module interface.

5. A system as recited in claim 5, wherein the first hardware type uses a SCSI protocol, and wherein the second hardware type uses a Fibre Channel protocol.

10 6. An independent storage node, comprising:

a processor;

transport hardware in communication with the processor, the transport hardware being capable of communicating data via a transport connection; and

modular storage software executing on the processor, the modular storage software comprising a plurality of software modules and a module interface that allows dynamic binding of the software modules, wherein the modular storage software is capable of executing on a plurality of processor types by using particular software modules related to a specific processor type.

